

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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BY CABLE

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1. On 17 June, about 1,500 Soviet soldiers wearing black-bordered red and red-bordered black epaulets arrived by road at the Quedlinburg airfield. The strikes in the nationalized enterprises were suppressed by them. Additional Soviet reinforcements with artillery and armored scout cars arrived on 18 June.¹
 2. All enterprises in Magdeburg were on strike on the morning of 17 June. Soviet tanks and KVP were committed into action at 10:15 A.M. About eight persons were killed in the course of the disturbances. All enterprises, occupied by Soviet troops, had resumed work on 19 June. The Baunion in Gommern was on strike on 17 June. Political prisoners were liberated. Soviet troops and KVP killed two persons. About 3,500 Soviet soldiers with 12 T-34 tanks and about 50 trucks towing 30 to 40 guns occupied the former ammunition plant at Gerwisch on 21 June.¹
 3. Two field guns and four heavy machine guns were observed in front of the machine tools factory in Aschersleben on 18 June. The troops were once more withdrawn on 19 June, after the workers had declared that they would refuse to work in their presence.¹

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4. The situation was still tense in Frankfurt/Oder on 24 June. Soviet troops with armored scout cars had occupied the railroad yard areas on 24 June.
5. Altes Lager in Doeberitz appeared to be only half occupied on 22 and 23 June.
6. Work had only partially been resumed at the Leipzig enterprises on 23 June. KVP troops forced the workers to go back to their jobs.
7. Martial law had been declared in Altenburg on 17 June; industrial plants were guarded by Soviet troops. The barracks installations east and west of Leipzigerstrasse were occupied by 500 and 80 soldiers respectively. The town appeared to be calm between 17 and 20 June.
8. Soviet sentries guarded all public buildings in Eisenach after martial law had been declared there on 17 June. The town was quiet. VP's from Eisenach moved to Jena and Erfurt on 17 June. Laundry shipments from the Kindel troops training grounds were almost discontinued between 17 and 20 June. Vehicular traffic to the training grounds had substantially decreased.

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9. Calm had been restored in Erfurt and Jena on 20 June. In Weimar, some of the sentries were withdrawn on 20 June including those employed at the car building factory, one of the focal points of the riots. A tank battalion of the 65th Mechanized Regiment arrived at the Weimar railroad station on 20 June and moved to the Tannenberg Kaserne. Another unit with crimson epuletts and with motor vehicles belonging to the headquarters unit of the 8th Guards Army arrived on the same day. This unit maintained contact with the Luetzendorf Kaserne. No other Soviet troops arrived prior to 21 June.
10. On 24 June, large guard details of up to 500 soldiers were posted at all elevated railroad stations in the Berlin area. An anti-aircraft unit with 12 light guns was guarding the Berlin-Bernau railroad line.
11. The Borsig plant in Berlin had resumed work on 23 June. The Oberspree Cable Works were partially back in operation.

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Comment: All of the motor vehicles seen had hitherto been only observed in Stendal. They apparently belong to units of the 207th Rifle Division.

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